



## Buzz, Crackle, Poof!

What we have here is the burned-up remains of a connection box and pig tail from a clothes dryer. Now sit back and listen to a quick story, specially made for all you do-it-yourself kings out there.

One day our home owner, a self-proclaimed handyman, heard funny noises coming from his dryer. (Sound effects) *Wubba, wubba, wubba*. Since calling a professional repair person is not in the handyman rule book, he opened it up, replaced the belt, and called it good. Oh, did I mention that liquid laundry detergent had also been spilled on the plug? He cleaned it out ... it was as good as new too.

It wasn't long before the sound effects changed to *wubba buzz, wubba crackle, wubba poof!* Uh oh. The stream of blue-gray smoke, and the smell of electrical fumes confirmed that our handyman's job was a little less than perfect.

Folks, doing it yourself is just fine, as long as you know what you're doing. Apply Operational Risk Management (ORM) to the situation before you start. If you determine that you're not the best person to do the job, then don't. Having a professional do the job is a lot cheaper than buying a brand new appliance after you've messed it up.